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To: Directors of Institutional Research at Maryland's Public Institutions  
From: Barbara A. Schmertz, Ph.D., Director of Research and Policy Analysis  
Date: July 12, 2022  
Subject: Revisions to the S-30 Annual Report on Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver and Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver Recipients for June 2022

The State is interested in the higher education outcomes of those students who receive the Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver and the Maryland Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver. Through both of these programs, deserving college-going youth receive financial assistance to cover tuition and resources to access additional federal and state aid. In response to new legislative requirements, the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is revising an existing data collection, the S-30 survey form.

Section 15-106.1(d)<sup>1</sup> of the Maryland Education Article requires that public institutions of higher education report on recipients of the Foster Care Tuition Waiver and the Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver to MHEC. The statute requires the collection of the number of recipients who (1) received the specified tuition exemption during the prior academic year<sup>2</sup>, (2) received the specified tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution, and (3) earned a bachelor's degree, associate's degree, or certificate from the institution during the prior academic year.

As of July 1, 2021, [SB 155/HB 216](#) requires institutions to report on additional measures pertaining to Foster Care Tuition Waiver and the Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver recipients including items tied to staff support and policies. This statute further requires that these data be reported disaggregated by age, racial/ethnic group, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Additionally, institutions must report on students who received the tuition waiver in the past who did not receive the waiver in the reporting cycle. In order to accommodate these new mandates, MHEC has developed a revised survey in the form of a Google form that incorporates questions addressing the new reporting requirements. MHEC has also provided an Excel workbook that all institutions must submit with their disaggregated data.

All 16 Community Colleges and 13 Public Four-Year Institutions are required to submit this survey even if one or both tuition exemptions have not been granted. The workbook has space that allows institutions to indicate the reason(s) they may be unable to report data, including the data for some or all of the disaggregated categories.

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<sup>1</sup> As of the date of this memo, the Maryland Education Article had not been updated to reflect these changes to statute.

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this survey collection, the prior academic year is the previous fiscal year; for the report due June 1, 2022, the reporting year is FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021).

The legislation requires that institutions submit their responses to the S-30 survey and upload their data no later than June 1, 2022 and every June thereafter. The Commission must submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly by September 1.

The survey has been designed to ensure that information can be reported accurately while also maintaining confidentiality and privacy of individual students. Statewide reporting will only report numbers aggregated at the state or segment level.

Institutions can find the S-30 survey for submission on MHEC's Secure Data Website under the calendar entries for June 2022 (<http://data.mhec.state.md.us>).

I look forward to working with you to make this process a success. Please direct any questions to me via e-mail at [barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov](mailto:barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov).

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.